



Atty. Dkt. No. 053466-0299

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Akihiro FUNAKOSHI *et al.*
Title: A PREVENTIVE OR THERAPEUTIC AGENT FOR
PANCREATITIS COMPRISING IL-6 ANTAGONIST AS AN
ACTIVE INGREDIENT
Appl. No.: 09/762,550
International Filing Date: 8/23/1999
371(c) Date: 2/9/2001
Examiner: Lorraine Spector
Art Unit: 1647
Confirmation No.: 5276

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated January 25, 2008, concerning the above-referenced patent application. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks. Applicants have enclosed with this communication a Petition for Extension of Time to make this response timely.

I. Status of the claims.

No claims have been amended, added or cancelled. Claims 14, 16-23, 25 and 26 are pending in the application.

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II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

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At page 3 of the Office Action, the PTO has rejected claims 14, 16-23, 25 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Sato *et al.* ("Sato") and/or